

Remarks

Claims 1-6 were originally filed in the present application. The present Preliminary Amendment adds new claims 7-17, leaving for the Examiner's consideration claims 1-17. No new matter is added by the addition of the new claims. The Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned if he can assist in any way in expediting issuance of a patent.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1325 for any matter in connection with this response, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: July 6, 2004

By: 
Stephen R. Bachmann
Reg. No. 50,806

FLIESLER MEYER LLP
Four Embarcadero Center, Suite 400
San Francisco, California 94111-4156
Telephone: (415) 362-3800